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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

September Livestock Slaughter
Average Prices Received by Farmers

Louisiana Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during September totaled 500,000 pounds, unchanged from August but 17 percent below the previous year.

There were 600 head of **cattle** slaughtered during September, unchanged from August but 100 head below the previous year. Average live weight was 733 pounds, up 42 pounds from the previous month and five pounds above August 2008. Total live weight, at 406,000 pounds, was three percent below the previous month and 24 percent below the previous year.

Calves slaughtered during September totaled 500 head, up 100 head from the previous month but the same as the previous year. Live weight averaged 537 pounds, up 33 pounds from August and 15 pounds above September 2008. Total live weight, at 255,000 pounds, was up 42 percent from August but five percent below the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during September totaled 1,100 head, up 300 head from the previous month and 200 head above the previous year. Average live weight was 179 pounds, down 14 pounds from August and 22 pounds below the previous year. Total live weight was 191,000 pounds, up 29 percent from August and ten percent above a year ago.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during September was 400 head, unchanged from August but 100 head above the previous year. Live weight averaged 60 pounds, unchanged from the previous month but four pounds below the previous year.

United States Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.3 billion pounds in September, down slightly from the 4.3 billion pounds produced in September 2008.

September 2009 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays. **September 2008** contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.2 billion pounds, was two percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.8 million head, down three percent from September 2008. The average live weight was up 14 pounds from the previous year, at 1,311 pounds.

Veal production totaled 11.7 million pounds, eight percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 81,200 head, down seven percent from September 2008. The average live weight was down seven pounds from last year, at 244 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.0 billion pounds, up one percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.9 million head, down slightly from September 2008. The average live weight was up four pounds from the previous year, at 270 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.8 million pounds, was up two percent from September 2008. Sheep slaughter totaled 225,400 head, one percent above last year. The average live weight was 130 pounds, up one pound from September a year ago.

January to September 2009 commercial red meat production was 36.8 billion pounds, down two percent from 2008. Accumulated beef production was down three percent from last year, veal was down four percent, pork was down one percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down three percent.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Meat Production

Item	Louisiana					United States			
	Aug.	September		Jan. – Sept.		September		January – September	
	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
----- Number, thousand head -----									
Cattle	0.6	0.7	0.6	5.3	5.5	2,889.4	2,814.4	26,187.9	25,095.5
Calves	0.4	0.5	0.5	3.1	3.2	87.4	81.2	685.8	686.8
Hogs	0.8	0.9	1.1	11.0	9.2	9,969.5	9,935.6	86,237.9	83,970.6
Sheep & Lambs	0.4	0.3	0.4	2.8	3.3	223.7	225.4	1,906.9	1,844.0
----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----									
Cattle	418	531	406	4,278	4,044	3,737,069	3,676,548	33,278,273	32,269,430
Calves	180	268	255	1,571	1,608	21,683	19,646	177,962	171,032
Hogs	148	174	191	2,278	1,820	2,645,765	2,678,810	23,040,865	22,687,306
Sheep & Lambs	25	21	27	204	213	28,846	29,359	261,193	252,413
----- Average live weight, pounds -----									
Cattle	691	728	733	807	735	1,297	1,311	1,275	1,290
Calves	504	522	537	507	503	251	244	263	252
Hogs	193	201	179	207	198	266	270	267	270
Sheep & Lambs	60	64	60	73	65	129	130	137	137
----- Million pounds -----									
Red Meat	0.5	0.6	0.5	5.2	4.8	4,272.9	4,261.8	37,663.5	36,763.3

Prices Received Increased 9 Points

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in October, at 135 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased nine points from September. The Crop Index was up 11 points and the Livestock Index increased one point. Producers received higher prices for lettuce, corn, milk and broccoli and lower prices for broilers, cattle, snap beans and cucumbers. In addition to prices, the overall index was also affected by the seasonal change based on a three-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of soybeans, corn, cotton and cottonseed offset decreased marketings of milk, wheat, grapes and sweet corn.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index was down 15 points from October 2008. The Food Commodities Index, at 135, increased nine points from last month but decreased 13 points from October 2008.

Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The October Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 175 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index was unchanged from September but 12 points below October 2008. Lower prices in October for concentrates, potash & phosphorus, complete feeds and feeder cattle offset higher prices for feeder pigs, feed grains, herbicides and LP gas.

Average Prices Received By Farmers

Item	Louisiana			United States		
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
	October 2008	September 2009	October 2009 ¹	October 2008	September 2009	October 2009 ¹
	Dollars			Dollars		
Soybeans, per bushel	9.22	9.72	9.74	9.95	9.75	9.74
Sorghum, per cwt	n/a	5.49	2/	6.89	5.63	5.57
Rice, per cwt	17.80	12.90	12.00	18.10	14.20	15.30
Upland Cotton, per pound	2/	.578	.603 ³	.588	.550	.526 ³
Hay, all, baled, per ton	n/a	n/a	n/a	156.00	107.00	106.00
Beef Cattle, per cwt ⁴	58.20	55.20	53.70	87.40	80.60	78.90
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	78.40	81.30	77.00	92.90	85.50	84.00
Cows, per cwt ⁵	46.30	39.90	40.00	48.40	44.40	43.70
Calves, per cwt	91.00	89.40	88.00	106.00	107.00	103.00
Broilers, live, per pound	n/a	n/a	n/a	.450	.420	.400
Eggs, All, per dozen	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.020	.748	.803
Milk, All, per cwt ⁶	n/a	n/a	n/a	17.80	12.90	13.80

¹ Mid-month.

² Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

³ Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month.

⁴ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

⁵ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

⁶ Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

n/a = Not Available.

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